

I appreciate the inclusion of three amendments for consideration in the final passage of the COMPETES Act:

CHIPS Funding to Non-Profits: Adds non-profits to the definition of “covered entities” to expand the semiconductor incentive program to include nonprofit entities. This clarifies that non-profit entities like the 501(c) facilities in NeoCity are also eligible for funding under the semiconductor incentive program.

AI JOBS Amendment (H.R. 6553): Directs the Department of Labor to create a report analyzing the future of artificial intelligence and its impact on the American Workforce. Specifically, the report would collect data to analyze which industries are protected to have the most growth through artificial intelligence, and the demographics which may experience expanded career opportunities and those most vulnerable to job displacement. This is an inclusion of the standalone bill H.R. 6553, the AI JOBS Act.

Blockchain & Crypto Specialist w/in OSTP: Requires the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy to establish a blockchain and cryptocurrencies advisory specialist position within the Office to advise the President on matters related to blockchain and cryptocurrencies. OSTP advises the President and others within the Executive Office of the President on the scientific, engineering, and technological aspects of the economy, national security, homeland security, health, foreign relations, and the environment. It is critical to create such a position within OSTP to ensure there is a policy expert capable of advising the President and others within the Executive Office on these issues of growing national importance.

The Restoring Resilient Reefs Act (RRRA) reauthorizes the Coral Reef Conservation Act (CRCA), which expired nearly fifteen years ago. It maintains the NOAA Coral Reef program, while also introducing overdue improvements to coral management and restoration efforts and giving innovative new tools to partners who are closest to this crisis: states, territories, tribes, communities, and universities.

KEY PROVISIONS.

A 5-year authorization with an explicit focus on restoration activities where natural disasters and human activities have degraded reef ecosystems. This program is currently funded at \$33M for 2021 but without further direction by Congress.

Creates a block grant program where states and territories can receive federal “matching funds” for the prior year’s coral expenditures, provided they have an action plan in place, which will incentivize increased state and local investment of in coral reef management capacity.

Intergovernmental partnerships are key for water infrastructure upgrades, pollution mitigation efforts and regrowing reefs,

Allows for the formation of a public-private partnerships for coral management, called “Coral Stewardship Partnerships.”

Public-Private partnerships are critical for sharing researching.

Authorizes the U.S. Coral Reef Task Force, to ensure states, territories, and other stakeholders continue to have a voice in U.S coral reef management. Public feedback is essential.

Establishes of a single streamlined set of guidelines for “action plans” to implement the national strategy, with maximum flexibility

given to state and local authorities. These action plans will focus restoration efforts more effectively.

Allows for emergency grants and emergency funds for coral disasters. This will assist with Hurricanes, typhoons, tsunamis, as well as oil spills and other major pollution events.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF BERT AARON

HON. ELAINE G. LURIA

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 8, 2022

Mrs. LURIA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Bertram Donald Aaron. Known by friends and loved ones as Bert, Mr. Aaron was a staple in the Hampton Roads area and leaves a long-lasting impact on our community.

Born in 1922 in Newport News, Bert was the eldest son of Harry and Lillian Aaron. He attained the rank of Captain in the U.S. Army in the Pacific theater during World War II. Following the war, Bert worked as an Aeronautical Research Scientist at the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, now NASA. He then worked as an engineer for the U.S. Army Signal Corps where he received the Commanders Medal for his service to national defense.

Named Daily Press Citizen of the Year for his support of local charities and the Virginia Symphony, Bert’s lasting contributions to our community are a testament to his enduring passion for the performing arts. He worked tirelessly to maintain the Greater Williamsburg Virginia Symphony Society, serving on the Board of the Symphony for 25 years and chairing the Williamsburg Area Arts Commission. Additionally, Bert was a fierce advocate for breast cancer research, organizing and chairing the first Virginia Breast Cancer Foundation Symposium on state-of-the-art medicine for breast cancer diagnosis and treatment.

I am grateful for Bert’s philanthropic spirit and his outstanding contributions to our community. It saddens me to hear of Bert’s passing, and I send my deepest condolences to his family and friends.

HONORING THE LIFE OF EDGAR STUART CAHN

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 8, 2022

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in celebrating the life of Dr. Edgar Stuart Cahn, who passed away at 86 years of age on January 23, 2022, in Bethesda, Maryland.

Edgar Stuart Cahn was born on March 23, 1935, and was raised in an activist household in New York. While earning his undergraduate degree at Swarthmore College, Edgar met and fell in love with fellow student Jean Camper, forming a partnership that would eventually spur substantial social, political and legal change for the benefit of our country’s most vulnerable. They married in New York, because, at the time, interracial marriage was illegal in Jean’s home state of Maryland.

Edgar and Jean both attended Yale Law School, where I met them as a fellow student. Following graduation, they moved to the District of Columbia in 1963, with Jean working as a legal advisor at the Department of State and Edgar as Special Assistant to and speechwriter for Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy. They would later work together in the Office of Economic Opportunity, where they, along with Sargent Shriver, established a first-of-its-kind federally funded program that provided legal aid to low-income Americans. This groundbreaking initiative, the predecessor to the Legal Services Corporation, is widely acknowledged as setting a blueprint for legal services and catalyzing what was then the burgeoning field of public interest law.

Edgar next undertook a two-year campaign organizing Native American leaders in an effort that led to the end of the official federal policy of terminating Native American tribes, and, with his book *Our Brother’s Keeper: The Indian in White America*, a classic indictment of America’s treatment of Native Americans, to enactment of Public Law 93–638, the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act.

Edgar and Jean founded the Antioch School of Law, the predecessor to the University of the District of Columbia David A. Clarke School of Law. He served as a member of the UDC law faculty until near the end of his life.

Edgar was a visionary in strategies to alleviate poverty, a pioneer in clinical legal education and a dear friend. He led with an unwavering focus to help the most vulnerable among us. He was equally beloved for his kindness, and he will be greatly missed.

Madam Speaker, again, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring the incredible life and legacy of Dr. Edgar Stuart Cahn.

RECOGNIZING TRICIA STEVER BLATTLER

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 8, 2022

Mr. VALADAO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Tricia Stever Blattler on her 15th anniversary with the Tulare County Farm Bureau and for her service to the Tulare, agriculture community.

Mrs. Blattler is an Exeter native and grew up on farms owned by the Pinkham family. She attended Exeter High School and participated in Mock Trial, 4–H, and FFA. After graduating high school, she went on to receive degrees in Agriculture Science and secondary teaching credentials from California Polytechnic State University. She received scholarships from the Tulare County and California Farm Bureaus.

In her first year with the Tulare County Farm Bureau, she was awarded a “Top 5” 40 under 40 Rising Stars business leader award by the Tulare Economic Development Corporation and Visalia Chamber of Commerce. She is a graduate of the distinguished California Ag Leadership Class 34 and the Dale Carnegie Public Speaking Institute. In addition to her role as Executive Director at the Tulare County Farm Bureau, Mrs. Blattler has served on the boards and advisory committees of the